

**Parks and Recreation Advisory Board
February 13, 2014
1401 Recreation Way, CSC 80905**

Highlighted Action Items

1. Waldo Canyon Memorial at Mountain Shadows Park

Matt Mayberry, Manager of Cultural Services, said that the Board approved the Mountain Shadows Park master plan in March 2013. However, redevelopment of the park is still pending based on a private fundraising effort. The master plan is moving forward with a scaled-down project. Phase I of the park redevelopment includes the memorial. The location has been identified.

In January 2013, Colorado Springs Together created a Memorial Committee. Nora Gledich is Chair of the Memorial Committee. Mr. Mayberry served on the Committee as well as a member from the Art Commission.

The overall Mountain Shadows Master Plan process influenced the design and concept of the memorial. A part of the memorial was to memorialize Bill and Barbara Everett who died during fire. The Memorial Committee recommended naming the loop trail around the park in honor of the Everetts to the Parks Board. The Board approved this recommendation.

In October 2013, a Request for Qualification (Call for Entries) for artists was published via the Western States Art Federation website. Eighty-six artists submitted materials from which five artists were selected. They were given a \$300 stipend to submit a formal proposal.

On January 10, 2014 the Committee held an open house in which community members were invited to view and provide comment on each of the proposals. There were 120 participants. The Committee then used this feedback to select a winning artist, Eileen Gay of Reno, Nevada with a sculpture titled "Heart". The artwork was presented to the Art Commission in January, and was approved. Staff recommended that the Board review and approve the art proposal. The memorial committee is now finalizing negotiations and developing a contract with the artist.

Nora Gledich, Chair of the Memorial Committee, provided a brief presentation regarding the selected art work shown below and the status of fundraising. Ms. Gledich said that they have been in fundraising mode for some time. As a part of the fundraising, they had an auction, "Ashes to Art", which included twenty-one paintings by Steve Weed who mixed in ashes from the Waldo Canyon Fire to his paintings. On October 1, 2013, Mr. Weed donated all proceeds from the auction. This amount is close to what is needed to erect a memorial. Currently, the Memorial Committee is working with Colorado Springs Together to raise additional funds. Once the funds are in place, the artist will enter into a contract with the City of Colorado Springs. After that, the artist will complete the design of the memorial, then transport it to Colorado Springs from Reno, Nevada. A structural engineering service has been secured, pro bono, through the Parks Department. This firm will work directly with the artist. The original goal for dedication was June 26th since that is the second anniversary of the fire; however, this date may change based on whether or not the artist can complete the project by that time and if the funds are raised by that time.



Board member Scarangella questioned the City's obligations for site prep or other actions related to the Mountain Shadows Memorial and asked to clarify the Board's action required for this item.

Mr. Mayberry responded by stating that there is still a lot of work that needs to be done such as removing the existing playground and a shelter structure and redesigning the area for the memorial (i.e. landscaping around it, the sculpture itself, etc.). There is no time line.

Karen Palus, Director of Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services, said that Colorado Springs Together is currently fundraising to bridge the gap in the project budget. Once the funds are raised the Department can put those pieces together.

In response to a question regarding the Board's action, Mr. Mayberry said that the Board is being asked to approve the art proposal for the location in the park.

Board member Hume said that Board member Johnson's email needs to be discussed.

Board member Maynard said that our community is generally looking to local people for volunteer efforts but goes outside of the community when we hire someone. That is a general concern of his as well as Board member Johnson's. However the art work, which has been selected for this project, is extraordinary and he supports it.

Vice Chair Feffer thanked the efforts of the Memorial Committee. He said that it seemed that there has been much effort from the community on the project. The Mountain Shadows community has endured a lot of pain. It seemed like through the whole process it is becoming more community-based and this is a great tribute to that.

Board member Castle thanked the Committee for their efforts.

Board member Johnson said that he supports the memorial and the redesign of the park. However, he had two concerns:

1. Under the artist's Exhibit B under Payment I, it states that "...upon written approval by Colorado Springs of the Artist's final proposal", Board member Johnson felt that this was not clear. It sounded as if the City was obligated for financing and that Colorado Springs Together was obligated only for \$3,000 for fundraising.

Mr. Mayberry said that the contract is understood by both parties that the funding has to come from private sources.

2. The artist selected is not a local artist. We should support artists in our community.

Ms. Gledich said that the Committee took extra effort in advertising for local (Colorado Springs) artists. However, they did not receive as many applications from local artists as anticipated. At the semi-finalist level, there was one artist from Colorado Springs, one from Loveland and one from Pueblo. The Memorial Committee made the final decision based on the 120 comments received from the community. There was an overwhelming desire for the selected art work by the Committee, Arts Commission and community members.

Board member Liebert said that she would have liked to have seen a local artist chosen and contribute to the local economy. However, she understands the process as to why it was chosen and that the Committee needed to choose something which truly represents the community the best way it can. Also, a community member (Steve Weed) created art to raise funds to create this memorial. The Board should respect the Memorial Committee's time and effort on this project as it is a good representation of regrowth, rebuilding and restoration.

In response to Board member Liebert's question regarding the goal of raising funds and achieving that within their timeframe, Ms. Gledich said that they hope to raise the funds and the fundraising will have to be done quickly. The Committee will be meeting with Colorado Springs Together the week of February 17th. She said that when the funds are there the process will begin. To the public, this art piece means "a closure".

Chair Hilaire said that she agreed with the comments regarding selecting a local artist. However, she was glad to see a female artist for a public art piece. Chair Hilaire said that "closure" is what the community will get with this art work. This will be another part of the healing process. She was glad that the Committee has taken on this project.

Charles Castle made a motion to accept the proposed sculpture by Eileen Gay for installation in Mountain Shadows Park. Motion seconded by Alex Johnson and carried unanimously.

Ayes: Jackie Hilaire, Gary Feffer, Charles Castle, Scot Hume, Alex Johnson, Mina Liebert, John Maynard, Hank Scarangella

Nays: None

Absent: Dan Lewis

MINUTES

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board
February 13, 2014
1401 Recreation Way, CSC 80905

Board Members Present: Jackie Hilaire, Gary Feffer, Charles Castle, Scot Hume, Alex Johnson, Mina Liebert, John Maynard, Hank Scarangella

Absent: Dan Lewis

Alternate Present: Ron Ilgen

CALL TO ORDER

Opening: Chair Hilaire called the meeting to order at 7:32 a.m.

CITIZEN DISCUSSION

Trails and Open Space Coalition Announcement: Bill Koerner, with Trails and Open Space Coalition (TOSC), said that the annual Bicycle Summit was well attended. Mr. Koerner mentioned a couple of items in reference to the Summit:

- Some cities have a dedicated funding source for bicycling and these funds are allocated each year. The City of Colorado Springs should focus on bicycling and consider funding for bicycling.
- The City should look at ways to facilitate public safety such as providing dedicated bike lanes; markings on crosswalks to create safe zones for bicycles; and painting the streets.

Susan Davies, Executive Director of TOSC, said that the Governor spoke at the Bike Summit. He said that Washington State is currently number one and Colorado is number two. He would like to see Colorado on top of the list.

TOSC has been receiving calls from trail and bicycle users regarding the maintenance of the trails, especially the commuter trails. They would like to see the detours open and construction underway as soon as possible. People have also expressed their concerns regarding the Palmer Loop which continues to be closed. A meeting is scheduled on February 25th with the U.S. Forest Service and other partners such as the City of Colorado Springs to discuss the Bear Creek Watershed area and when the trail will re-open. TOSC has additional information regarding this on their website. Ms. Davies encouraged Board members to attend the meeting.

Garden of the Gods Update: John Demmon, President of the Friends of Garden of the Gods, announced that the Annual Bighorn Sheep Day is scheduled on February 15th from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the Visitor Center. There will be a number of activities for children (i.e. bighorn sheep habitat viewing station, live Zoo animals, etc.). Mr. Demmon invited Board members to attend the event.

Vincent Bridge: Al Brody, with Bike Colorado Springs, suggested that the City consider placing a new box culvert on the old Vincent bridge which is scheduled to be demolished and removed. He said that the bridge is in the right place to connect a box culvert under Vincent Avenue.

Kids on Bikes: Nikki McComsey with Kids on Bikes, said the following:

- There are opportunities within the Non-Motorized Transportation Plan, especially for the bicycle community, and hopes that the Parks Board can be an advocate to move it forward once the Plan comes forward.
- Kids on Bikes has been in partnership with the Community Centers for a number of years now. A portion of the Kaiser Permanente grant will help set up the first bicycle library at the Meadows Park Community Center. They plan to create a structure to have bicycles, tools, etc. for the community to have access to and to check out equipment as needed. They will conduct monthly bike repair

workshops, including bike safety and rides. They also plan to gather information from the community and provide that to the Parks Board and the Non-Motorized Transportation Committee regarding the community's needs.

- A Bicycle Carnival is scheduled on May 31st at Bear Creek Park.

Broad Based Universal Gardening Support (BBUGS): Karen Fleming, Gardening Coordinator at Meadows Park Community Center, and Stephanie Funari from AmeriCorps VISTA'S and BBUGS, thanked the Board for their support for the BBUG program by reading a "Thank You" poem, which was written by Ms. Funari.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Board member Liebert made a correction on the spelling of the PPACG Transportation Program staff's last name from "Patooley" to "Vitulli" on Page 3, under "Update on Bike/Pedestrian Master Plan".

Charles Castle made a motion to approve the minutes from the January 9, 2014 Board meeting with the above amendment. Motion seconded by John Maynard and carried unanimously.

Ayes: Jackie Hilaire, Gary Feffer, Charles Castle, Scot Hume, Alex Johnson, Mina Liebert, John Maynard, Hank Scarangella
Nays: None
Absent: Dan Lewis

CHANGE TO AGENDA/POSTPONEMENT

Chair Hilaire announced that the order of a number of agenda items will be switched to accommodate schedule conflicts for staff and presenters. The minutes reflect the changes as written.

NEW STAFF INTRODUCTION

- **Project Construction Coordinator:** Ms. Palus introduced Steve Bodette, the new Project Construction Coordinator with the Design and Development Division. Mr. Bodette had worked in the Public Works Engineering Department prior to coming to the Parks Department.

CEREMONIAL ITEMS

- **Recognition of AmeriCorps VISTA Program Volunteers:**
Program Coordinators Jody Derington and Brian Kates recognized the AmeriCorps VISTA Program volunteers who worked at Deerfield Hills, Meadows Park and Stratmoor Community Centers this past year. Some of their achievements included creation of "Sci-Fri" STEM-based programming at Deerfield Hills in partnership with the University of Colorado - Colorado Springs (UCCS) and School District #2; Youth Garden program in partnership with the Colorado State University Extension; Community Garden at Hillside; development of a science curriculum; coordination of a community cleanup day in the Stratmoor area; coordination of the Broad Based Universal Gardening Support (BBUGS) program at Meadows Park; and a Food Rescue Program at Stratmoor. In appreciation of their services to the Parks Department, staff acknowledged the following volunteers from AmeriCorps and presented them with framed pictures:
 - Deanna Thompson (Deerfield Hills Community Center)
 - Ben Palm (Meadows Park and Stratmoor Community Centers)
 - Stephanie Funari (Meadows Park Community Center)

Ms. Derington recognized Tilah Larson, Volunteer Coordinator, for recruiting the AmeriCorps VISTAs for the Parks Department.

Karen Palus, Director of Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services, said that there will be a Mayor's recognition on April 4th, which is the national initiative recognizing AmeriCorps VISTA NCCC (National Civilian Community Corps) program, which includes citizens and volunteers throughout the country.

➤ **Certificate of Appreciation to the City of Colorado Springs - Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Department for Passing a Smoke-Free Ordinance for the Park System in 2013**

Susan Wheelan, Communication Director with El Paso County (EPC) Public Health, said that she also oversees the Tobacco Education Prevention Program. Ms. Wheelan commended the leadership of the Parks Department staff, Parks Board and City Council for supporting and passing the Smoke Free Ordinance. She said that there are currently thirty communities within Colorado that support a Smoke Free Ordinance.

EPC Public Health has a focus to reduce youth initiation and use of tobacco. They are planning to work with the Community Centers and VISTAs to educate the community regarding the health impacts of tobacco. They will also work with the Fire Department to discuss fire dangers and litter in order for the Fire Department to educate youth on these issues.

EPC Public Health is planning a cleanup day in parks on March 18th in recognition of the national day for "Kick Butts". This event will be organized through the Community Centers.

Ms. Wheelan briefly spoke and distributed information regarding the dangers of second hand smoke and "Be a Good Role Model, Be Tobacco Free" campaign, which they are currently involved with. She also mentioned that the flyer also included the signs with smoke free messages which were placed in a number of the City parks in 2013.

Ms. Wheelan presented a plaque to the Parks Department for supporting the Smoke Free Ordinance and implementing a Smoke Free policy. She said that a Certificate of Appreciation to the Parks Department was presented to staff at a Tobacco Education Coalition meeting in 2013.

Karen Palus, Director of Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Department, said that the Department has been working with the Tobacco Education Coalition regarding the signage. The Department is looking forward to the upcoming events, opportunities and working with EPC Public Health.

➤ **Recognition of Donors for the Sertich Ice Center Score Board**

John Carricato, Park Operations Administrator, recognized Jim Johnson, CEO and President of G.E. Johnson Construction, and Mike Scruggs, owner of Little Caesars Pizza, for their support and sponsorship of a new scoreboard at the Sertich Ice Center. G.E. Johnson Construction donated \$7,000 and Little Caesars Pizza donated \$3,000. In appreciation, Mr. Carricato presented framed pictures to Mr. Johnson and Mr. Scruggs.

➤ **Recognition of Acacia Park Ice Rink Partners**

Karen Palus, Director of Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services, recognized the Downtown Partnership; Colorado Springs Utilities; Jose Muldoon's Restaurant; Classic Homes; and the Gazette for their support and partnership in making the Acacia Park Ice Skating Rink a true community success.

Ms. Palus presented framed pictures to Ms. Prud'homme on behalf of the Downtown Partnership; Mr. Johnson and Ms. Hoaglund on behalf of Colorado Springs Utilities; and Luke Travins on behalf of Jose Muldoon's. Representatives from Classic Homes and the Gazette were not present at the meeting.

➤ **Special Recognition**

Karen Palus, Director of Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services, recognized Susan Davies, Executive Director of the Trails and Open Space Coalition, and Eric Parthen, Executive Director of the El Pomar Youth Sports Complex, for their support of the Parks Department during the 2014 Budget process. Ms. Davies and Mr. Parthen attended a number of meetings and spoke during citizen input sessions in support of the Department.

Ms. Palus presented a token of appreciation to Ms. Davies and Mr. Parthen and thanked them for their leadership, dedication and continued support.

➤ **Calendar Winners**

Karen Palus, Director of Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services, said that a photo contest was held in 2013 for the Department's first calendar. Over 200 photos of the parks, trails and open spaces were submitted. A committee, consisting of citizens, selected the top photos for the 2014 Colorado Springs Tribute Calendar. Some of the selected photos were displayed in the Reception area. A total of twenty one photographers received awards. Matt Payne's photo of the Blue Stem Open Space was selected as the cover of the calendar as well as for the month of February. Mr. Payne, the winner of the calendar, could not be recognized at this meeting because he had recently moved to Oregon.

Ms. Palus said that the 2014 calendar was underwritten by Timberline Landscaping. She recognized Sarah Bryarly, Landscape architect, for coordinating the calendar project.

ADDED ITEM

➤ **Regional Parks, Trails and Open Space Update**

Deb McDonald, with the Regional Parks Division, provided a status report on the Regional Parks, Trails and Open Space Division.

The highlights of the presentation included the following:

- 2013 challenges: Pressure on the resource; preserving resources while providing high-quality visitor experiences; lack of ordinance enforcement; and lack of ecological integrity monitoring; volunteer stewardship.
- Infraction Monitoring: Illegal camping; car break-ins; scrambling; defacing park properties; graffiti; dogs off leash; failure to curb dogs; wildlife harassment; littering/dumping; parking in bike lanes; unauthorized parking and gunshots, which was added in 2013.
- Crew Leader Training: 35 enrolled in the program and 32 graduated. 16 were certified.
- Volunteer Stewardship: There were a total of 141 projects with 3,370 volunteers providing 15,661 volunteer hours, which is worth \$346,745.
- Volunteer Interns: The Regional Parks Division had two interns, from Colorado College and Pikes Peak Community College, who conducted independent studies at Garden of the Gods Park and Blodgett Peak Open Space.
- Student PROS (Protection, Restoration, Outreach and Stewardship) Program: Two students from the Pikes Peak Community College (PPCC) provided a total of 287.5 volunteer intern hours. Their accomplishments included completing the Crew Leader Training and being certified; strengthening cooperative relationships between the City and volunteers, especially with the Guardians of Palmer Park, as well as between the Regional Parks Division and PPCC; and closing and rehabilitating 1,243.25 linear feet of illegal trail in Palmer Park, including soil de-compaction and seeding of native plant species.

Scott Abbott, Skilled Maintenance Supervisor, announced that Ms. McDonald will be resigning from her position due to her move to Arizona. Ms. McDonald had been with the Regional Parks Division for three years. She began as an intern then moved to a seasonal position. Mr. Abbott thanked Ms. McDonald by presenting a framed picture.

ACTION ITEM

1. **Waldo Canyon Memorial at Mountain Shadows Park**

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Board member Johnson said that he supports the memorial and the redesign of the park. However, he had two concerns:

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Charles Castle made a motion to accept the proposed sculpture by Eileen Gay for installation in Mountain Shadows Park. Motion seconded by Alex Johnson and carried unanimously.

Ayes: Jackie Hilaire, Gary Feffer, Charles Castle, Scot Hume, Alex Johnson, Mina Liebert, John Maynard, Hank Scarangella

Nays: None

Absent: Dan Lewis

BREAK: 9:22 a.m.

RECONVENED: 9:35 a.m.

CEREMONIAL ITEMS (Cont'd)

➤ **Recognition of Chief of Staff**

Karen Palus, Director of Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services, said that Chief of Staff/Chief Administrative Officer Laura Neumann will be resigning from her position with the City of Colorado Springs on March 1, 2014. (Steve Cox will replace Ms. Neumann.)

Ms. Palus said that Ms. Neuman has been a true champion for parks and recognized her on behalf of the Department with a framed picture thanking her for her time, diligence and dedication to the community.

STAFF REPORT

➤ **2014 On-Street Bike Projects Report**

Brian Shevock, with Traffic Engineering, provided a brief update on the 2014 Bike System as follows:

- Revised bike map is available via City's Bike Colorado Springs website.
- QR Codes will go on new bike rack systems as well as located on the Bike Colorado Springs website. QR Codes will provide information about Bike Colorado Springs. The GoCOSprings mobile site will be incorporated as well as additional helpful links (i.e. trails, etc.).

- Bike Lane Additions:

Street Name	From Limit	To Limit	Miles
Las Animas St	Corona St	Logan Ave	0.9
Broadway Dr	21 st St	Westend Ave	0.7
Parkside Dr	Union Blvd	Printers Pkwy	0.4
Fontanero St/Fontmore Rd	31 st St	Mesa	0.9

- Resurfaced Areas

Street Name	From Limit	To Limit	Miles
W Woodmen Rd	Orchard Valley Rd	Edenderry Dr	1.94
Centennial Blvd	Flying W Ranch Rd/Vindicator Dr	N 30th St	1.65
Fontmore Rd	N 31st St	Mesa Rd	0.92

- 2014 Proposed Striping (6.95 miles)

Street Name	From Limit	To Limit	Miles
8th Street	Motor City Dr	Arcturus	0.9
Astrozon Blvd (Shared)	Academy	Hancock Expy	0.5

Mount View Lane	Mt View Ln/Acacia Dr	Meadow Lane	0.2
Pace Dr	Pulsar Dr	Academy Blvd	0.1
Pulsar Dr	Academy Park Loop	Murray	0.4
Prospect Lake Dr	Costilla	Las Animas (Contra flow)	0.4
Corona	Monroe	Willamette	1.6
Royer	Monroe	Columbia	0.8
N Carefree	Oro Blanco	Rio Vista	0.9
Fontanero	El Paso	Cascade	0.65
Monroe	Templeton Gap	Wahsatch	0.5

- 2014 Proposed Public Process Projects (6.2 miles)

Street Name	From Limit	To Limit	Miles
Austin Bluffs Pkwy	Briargate Pkwy	Reaserach Pkwy	1.1
Costilla St	Hancock Ave	Sierra Madre	1.4
Academy Park Loop	E Fountain Blvd	Pulsar	0.1
Peterson	Stetson Hills Blvd	Ponytracks	2.1
Templeton Gap Rd/ El Paso (5 Points)	Hollyhock Dr	Fontanero St	1.5

- 2014 Proposed Project Development (1.6 miles)

Street Name	From Limit	To Limit	Miles
Prospect Lake Dr	Union Blvd	Logan Ave	0.3
21 st Street	Broadway	US 24/	
Cimarron St	0.2 st		
US 24/Cimarron St	21 st St	26 th St	0.5
Bott Ave	21 st St	26 th St	0.6

- 2014 proposed Enhancement Grant (4.9 miles) projects.

Street Name	From Limit	To Limit	Miles
Hancock Expy/Hancock Ave	Union Blvd	Bijou St E	2.6
Mount View Ln	Mallow Rd	Nevada Ave N	0.3
Cascade Ave	Fillmore St	Templeton Gap Trail	1
Uintah St	19 th St	I-25	1

- The on-line bike request forms, new bike racks, and bike stations were explained.

PRESENTATION

➤ **City for Champions Proposal**

Bob Cope, Senior Business Claims Specialist with Economic Vitality, said that the Regional Tourism Act was passed in Colorado a few years ago. This is a three year program. This gave the state the opportunity to approve up to six unique and extraordinary tourism venues throughout the state. The concept is to finance these projects, in part, with net new state sales tax revenue that is generated through out-of-state visitors; visitors that would not have otherwise come to the state of Colorado, thus producing revenue that the state would not have had; thus it would have an effect on the state's general fund.

The highlights of the presentation are as follows. (A copy of the PowerPoint presentation is on file.)

- United States Olympic Stadium
- Colorado Sports and Event Center
- UCCS Sports Medicine and Performance Center
- United States Air Force Academy Visitor Center
- City For Champions TIF Zone
- Net New Visitors: Projected out-of-state visitors
- Visitor Spending: Estimated per visitor expenditures
- Net New State Sales Tax Increment (2014-2043)

- Preliminary Financial Plan
- Risks:
 - Investment bankers will conduct extensive due diligence
 - Bond holders will conduct extensive due diligence
 - Bond holders will assume risk of default – Not taxpayers
 - Operating entities will assume risk of operating shortfalls – Not taxpayers
- Economic Impacts:
 - 1.2 million new visitors to Colorado Springs – 513,000 net new from out of state
 - \$4.2 billion in net new retail sales over 30 years (\$140 million annually)
 - \$320 million in additional local tax revenue over 30 years (\$10.7 million annually)
 - Projects funded with net new sales tax revenue from out-of-state visitors – only 13% of the total increment
 - City, County and State receive 87% of the total increment
 - City for Champions creates 5,100 jobs: 2,215 construction; 2,867 permanent
 - Fiscal Bonus to City of Colorado Springs, El Paso County, and PPRTA were explained.
 - Economic Impacts
 - \$192 million in net new local tax revenue over 30 years after TIF financing (\$6.4 million annually)
 - \$132 million City of Colorado Springs (\$4.4 million annually)
 - \$60 million El Paso County (\$2 million annually)
 - \$6.5 billion increase to GMP over 30 years (\$217 million annually)
 - City for Champions is an investment that creates jobs, grows the economy and expands the tax base
 - City for Champions does not reduce the general fund – it increases the general fund
 - Funds that can be used to address core City services, storm water and other capital needs

In response to Board member Maynard's question regarding the TOPS revenue projection, Mr. Cope said that he will get that information to him.

Vice Chair Feffer said that there will be impacts to the park system (i.e. America the Beautiful Park, Monument Valley Park, Acacia Park, etc.). Therefore, the Board has a vested interest on this project. He asked if the Board has the ability to provide input to City Council regarding whether the Board supports the project or not?

Karen Palus, Director of Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services, said that she can coordinate that.

In response to Board member Castle's question, Mr. Cope said that the Downtown venues are envisioned to be located within the existing southwest Downtown Urban Renewal area, which is generally Colorado and Cascade Avenues going south to America the Beautiful Park (approximately 100 acres). The venues mentioned could be located anywhere within that area, although a preferred location has been identified. The Master Plan process will begin in the next 30-60 days. Mr. Cope expects that the southwest Downtown Urban Renewal area will be revisited as well.

In response to Board member Castle's question regarding if some of the funds which are coming from these projects can become a permanent funding for parks, Mr. Cope said that a certain portion will increase the TOPS funding; however, that would be a future City Council decision. The purpose of the City for Champions and other economic development initiatives is to grow the economy and expand the tax base so that there is additional revenue to fund all of the critical needs within City services, including parks.

Other items which were discussed between Board members and Mr. Cope included a tourism revenue increase; and designating types of opportunities for health, wellness and natural resources. The video which was shown at the Board meeting can be found under the City for Champions' website (cityforchampions.com).

Chair Hilaire asked for public input.

Susan Davies, with the Trails and Open Space Coalition, mentioned the trail connectivity and pedestrian opportunities, and asked that the trails and sidewalks be a part of the plan. She also asked if any of the Parks Department's funding has, is or is expected to go towards this process.

In response to Ms. Davies' questions, Ms. Palus said that the trail connection is a part of this, and no, regarding the Parks funding. Mr. Cope added that the pedestrian bridge will be funded through the PPRTA.

In response to Chair Hilaire questions regarding a letter of support to City Council, Vice Chair Feffer said that the Board needs to discuss it first because not all Board members may support this.

Board member Hume said that he would be hesitant to support it until he has more information (i.e. TOPS revenue, Parks budget, etc.).

Board member Castle was in favor of a support letter as he would like to see the project progress.

Chair Hilaire said that the Board can support the concept and the proposed economic growth.

Board member Maynard suggested adding this as an action item on the March agenda to discuss the letter of support, etc. The Board members agreed.

Chair Hilaire requested that staff provide TOPS projections and the percentage of tourism increases, which were mentioned earlier.

➤ **Buffalo Soldier Memorial Project**

Kurt Schroeder, Manager of Park Operations and Development, said that the Department received a request from William Breazell and Henry Allen regarding possible locations for a memorial being created to honor the Buffalo Soldiers. They were seeking the Board's approval in order to begin their next step to look for the art work and to raise funds for the memorial.

During the last master plan amendment for Memorial Park, a number of locations within the park were designated for memorials. The location which the Buffalo Soldier Community Memorial Project is requesting is at the corner of Pikes Peak and Union, which is one of the locations for memorials identified in the master plan.

Will Breazell, Chair of the Buffalo Soldier Community Memorial Project, provided an overview of the project. Mr. Breazell's presentation included the following:

- A brief history of the Buffalo Soldiers (i.e. where they served, in what capacity they served, participation in historic events in Colorado, etc.).
- The purpose of the memorial is to:
 - Highlight the little known piece of western history regarding the Buffalo Soldiers' (mostly illiterate former slaves) contribution to the settling of the west.
 - Recognize the harsh desert and plains environment in which these soldiers honorably served their country.
 - Educate the community regarding the racism and segregation under which these soldiers performed their duties with several winning the Medal of Honor for heroism on the battlefield.
- Details of memorial: Bronze; 6-7 ft. tall; a fully equipped mounted soldier; data plate with a brief history of Buffalo Soldiers (50-100 words).
- Estimated cost for the project is \$150,000-\$200,000, with upfront cost of \$5,000.
- Desired memorial location: northeast corner (Pikes Peak and Union) of Memorial Park, pending approval.
- Anticipated fundraising approach through the El Pomar Foundation; Sachs Foundation; Daniels Foundation; City donation; Federal Government Grants; and community donations.
- Approval process will include the Parks Board, Pikes Peak Arts Council and ultimately from the former Secretary of State Colin Powell.
- Projected timeline:
 - January 2014: City coordination

- March-May 2014: Memorial design submissions/award
- May-October 2014: Fundraising
- June 1, 2015: Site Installation
- 2015: Buffalo Soldier Memorial Dedication
- Possible Fiscal Agents
 - Pikes Peak Arts Council (preferred);
 - VFW Post #101(bonded) (pending response)
- Examples of the memorials.

In response to Chair Hilaire's question, Mr. Schroeder said that there will be some modification done on the site. However, details are unknown at this point since a memorial has not yet been selected. Regarding vandalism, there is a potential; at the same time, the memorial will be in a highly visible area.

Chair Hilaire suggested seeking funding from military installations as well as creating a website to generate public interest. She also corrected the name of the Pikes Peak Arts Council to "Arts Commission" from the presentation.

In response to Board member Liebert's question, Mr. Schroeder said that access to the memorial can be via sidewalks since the memorial will be at the corner of the park.

There was a consensus by the Board to support the project and to move forward with it.

Mr. Schroeder said that staff will work closely with the Buffalo Soldier Memorial project members and provide updates to the Board as needed.

➤ **Pikes Peak - America's Mountain Year-End Report**

Jack Glavan, Manager of Pikes Peak - America's Mountain, provided a year-end report regarding Pikes Peak - America's Mountain (PPAM) through a PowerPoint presentation.

Highlights of the presentation included:

- Guiding Documents include:
 - Term Special Use Permit
 - Purpose
 - Constructing, operating, and maintaining the Pikes Peak Highway Recreation Corridor and toll road for public recreational travel to the summit of Pikes Peak; offering sales of food, beverages and souvenir-type merchandise; and offering picnicking and interpretative services
 - Installing, maintaining and operating electronic transmission equipment for which a station authorization has been issued by the FCC to the permit holder
 - Such ancillary uses of the permit area may be authorized under the annual Operating Plan and Budget
 - First issued by USFS in 1948
 - Current Permit: 1990-2020
 - Highway and all structures are owned by the United States under the administration of the USFS (except for the Maintenance Garage and Crystal Reservoir Visitors Center)
 - Permit is not transferable; holder may sublease use of land, concessions, etc.
 - All income derived from permitted uses must be used for funding the Operating Plan and Budget.
 - Annual Operating Plan
 - Purpose
 - Identify activities and work items proposed for the year and to provide advanced written approval for as many items as possible at one time.
 - Annual Operating Plan becomes part of the permit once signed by both parties
 - Ancillary Uses and Activities Requiring USFS Approval

- Events involving large numbers of people; events lasting several days; and events involving controversial high-risk activities (i.e. Pikes Peak International Hill Climb, Pikes Peak Cycling Hill Climb Event, use of fireworks, high-altitude helicopter use)
- Events, Uses and Activities Delegated to PPAM for Approval
 - Research experimentation and demonstration activities of short duration
 - Filming and still photography of a commercial nature
- Prohibited Activities
 - Horse, or pedestrian traffic except as an approved event under escort
 - Trailers
 - Vehicles that exceed 19 feet from front axle to rear axle
 - Overnight camping. Exception: Bighorn sheep hunters who have drawn a permit for the Pikes Peak unit
- 1992 Master Plan
 - Purpose
 - Describe and define policies, plans, design concepts and guidelines with regard to the desired future conditions for the land and facilities within the highway corridor.
 - Master Plan Elements include: Erosion and Sedimentation Control Program; Transportation; Interpretive Program; Recreation and Signage System
- Special Use Event Policy
 - Purpose
 - Define exclusive and non-exclusive special use events allowable within the Pikes Peak Recreation Corridor.
- Exclusive Use Event Policy
 - Requires the closure of the Pikes Peak Highway to visitors
 - Requests must be submitted in writing a minimum of one (1) year prior to the desired date of the event
 - Commercial use of the highway for personal and private use will be denied for consideration
 - Agreements will be for a contract term of no more than one (1) business day
 - Base fee is a minimum of \$50,000
 - Must be approved by the City of Colorado Springs and the U.S. Forest Service
 - Existing agreements: Pikes Peak International Hill Climb
- Non-Exclusive Special Use Event (NESE) Policy
 - Non-Exclusive Special Event: Negotiated and approved agreements that provide non-exclusive access to Pikes Peak – America's Mountain during normal operating hours.
 - Examples include vehicle testing, scientific analysis of altitude effects or weather events, and commercial filming.
 - Peak Season: Anytime during the months of June, July or August
 - Peak Hours: Between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.
 - Weekends: For the purpose of these guidelines weekends include the days Friday, Saturday and Sunday.
 - Bicycling Groups: An organized group of 10 or more riders will be considered a bicycling group.
 - Number of Events:
 - The number of events in any given time period may be limited by the PPAM Manager or designated representative based on safety or operational requirements.
 - Due to numerous Pikes Peak International Hill Climb event activities in June, no other NESE will be scheduled prior to Race Day.
 - Event Duration Restrictions:
 - Days: No more than three consecutive days will be scheduled and only one of the three defined weekend days will be included.
 - Hours:
 - No more than 10 hours of event activities during a given day.
 - During Peak Season, hours of activities may be restricted during peak visitor hours.

- Fees: All costs and fees for non-exclusive use agreements are negotiated and approved prior to any event. The Pikes Peak – America's Mountain base fee is a minimum per day as defined below.
 - Weekdays: \$2500 per day
 - Weekend days: \$3500 per day
 - Helicopter Usage: \$2500 additional per day of helicopter use.
 - New Requests for Non- Exclusive Use Agreements: All requests must be submitted, in writing, to the Pikes Peak Staff a minimum of six (6) months prior to the desired date of the event.

- Visitation Summary

Month to Date Comparison

Month	2011	2012	2013	2012 vs. 2013 Increase /Decrease
January	3,190	3,998	5,322	33%
February	2,417	3,022	3,520	16%
March	7,998	12,244	8,243	-33%
April	6,945	9,857	7,827	-21%
May	16,657	25,904	23,878	-8%
June	42,857	37,356	45,275	21%
July	76,434	56,050	72,163	29%
August	50,236	46,977	52,274	11%
September	33,328	36,126	30,306	-16%
October	14,739	15,811	18,268	16%
November	6,581	11,334	9,955	-12%
December	3,742	6,653	7,848	18%
	265,124	265,332	284,879	7%

- 2013 and 2014 Budget

	Source of Funds	2012 Actual	2013		2014 Budget	2014 Budget - * 2013 Amended Budget
			Original Budget	* 2013 Amended Budget		
All Funds	Pikes Peak - America's Mountain					
	Enterprise Fund	\$4,426,898	\$3,682,314	\$3,682,314	\$3,695,314	\$13,000
	Total	\$4,426,898	\$3,682,314	\$3,682,314	\$3,695,314	\$13,000
	Uses of Funds					
	Pikes Peak - America's Mountain					
	Enterprise Fund	\$2,646,773	\$3,282,314	\$3,291,543	\$3,195,314	(\$96,229)
	CIP - Restricted	1,662,621	400,000	400,000	1,200,000	800,000
	Total	\$4,309,394	\$3,682,314	\$3,691,543	\$4,395,314	\$703,771
	Positions					
	Pikes Peak - America's Mountain					
	Enterprise Fund	20.00	19.00	19.00	19.00	0.00
	Total	20.00	19.00	19.00	19.00	0.00

- 2013 Summer Event Timeline
- 2013 Facts and Statistics
 - 50 days of special event activities out of 122 peak season days
 - Visitors: 284,879
 - Bicycles: Escorted: 3,543 Unescorted: 792
- 2013 Project Update
 - Gateway Phase II: Canopy /Admin Office
 - Summit House Roof
 - Retaining Wall at Ragged Edge
 - Halfway Picnic Area Channel
- 2013 Special Events

- Pikes Peak International Hill Climb Jun 30th
- Pikes Peak Cycling Hill Climb Race July 31st
- Pikes Peak High Altitude Mile, Ascent/Marathon Aug 13/17/18th
- Pikes Peak Downhill Skateboard Sept 7/8th
- 2014 Project Update
- Erosion Control Projects
 - Elks Park: Pipeback and Concrete Channel
 - Halfway Picnic Area Channel
 - Gateway Visitor Center
 - Other Projects
- 2014 Special Events
 - Pikes Peak International Hill Climb Jun 29th
 - Pikes Peak Ascent/Marathon Aug 16/17th
 - Pikes Peak Cycling Hill Climb Race Aug 24th
 - Pikes Peak Downhill Skateboard Race Sep 6/7th
- Pikes Peak Planning
 - Summit Design/Construction
 - Permit Extension
- Current Permittees
 - Pikes Peak – America’s Mountain
 - Colorado Springs Utilities
 - US Ariem
- Future Steps
 - Permit Renewals or Extensions will be requested
 - Number of Permits Sought will be determined by number of buildings to be constructed
 - Environmental Process Started
 - Entire Site Above 14,000’ to be Considered
 - Design Request for Proposals (RFP) Developed
 - One Design Team
 - Design Standards Developed
 - Public Process Reinitiated

In response to Board members’ questions, Mr. Glavan provided the following responses:

- 280,000 is the number of visitors. The ratio for vehicles is 2.75, which means approximately 100,000 cars.
- It is a standard City policy for the special event holders to carry a 1 million dollar policy naming the City and the U.S. Forest Service as additional insured.
- The lease for Pikes Peak - America’s Mountain expires in 2016. It was a 30 year lease with the U.S. Forest Service. Staff is currently working to renew the lease. The new lease could be an extension or a complete new lease.

NOTE: Due to a meeting conflict, Hank Scarangella left the meeting at 11:45 a.m.

STAFF REPORT (Cont’d)

➤ **Forest Management Update**

Dennis Will, Staff Forester, provided an update regarding the restoration treatment which was conducted in 2013 as follows:

- The mission of City Forestry is to “manage our urban forest in a healthy, safe, and sustainable state, which maintains our original forest legacy, manages risk, and increases the canopy coverage for shade, stormwater retention and property value”.
- The street trees have a replacement value of \$828.2 million, and provide \$28.9 million in benefits every year.

- Forest restoration is defined as “actions to re-instate ecological processes, which accelerate recovery of forest structure, ecological functioning and biodiversity levels towards those typical of climax forest (i.e. the end-stage of natural forest succession)”.
 - Climax forests are relatively stable ecosystems that have developed the maximum biomass, structural complexity and species diversity that are possible.
- In April 2013, the Mayor provided a million dollars to the Parks Department for urban forest management. Staff identified priority areas as follows:
 - Identified parks and open spaces that have south and west facing slopes with infrastructure above.
 - Colorado State Forest Services Colorado Wildfire Risk Assessment Portal.
 - Examined aerial photos to identify vegetation canopy cover/densities/access.
 - Mapped proposed treatment areas, attempted to connect existing with new areas
 - Ground-truthed maps.
 - Assessed acreage needing treatment, available budget and estimated cost per acre to calculate baseline budget.
 - Assembled interested local contractors.
- The total acres proposed for 2013 was 600 acres. To date, 176.2 acres have been treated. An approximate cost per acre was \$3,000.
- The projects which are currently under contract include:
 - Red Rock Canyon (Department of Natural Resources grant funded - \$140,000) – 98 acres: The project began on November 19th with the Mile High Youth Corps. 25 acres have been treated to date and 600 cubic yards of mulch have been taken to the Forestry Operations Center.
 - Asplundh Tree Service: Three crews are currently working at North Cheyenne Cañon.
 - North Cheyenne Cañon - Approximately 100 acres: Grant writing process is underway. Five acre demo site has been selected – pending implementation.
- Restoration Standards:
 - Diversity of “patchiness” across the landscape is the norm.
 - Treatments crafted to meet ecological goals while also mitigating fuel hazards.
 - More ponderosa and aspen, less Douglas fir.
 - Increased heterogeneity.
 - Variable age structure and tree densities.
 - More and larger openings.
 - Preservation of larger, older trees.
 - Attention to rare species or habitats.
 - Attention to potential exotic invasive species.
 - Fire and its natural effects should be restored where possible.
 - Utilize mechanical treatments as surrogate to fire.
- 2013 projects included the following areas: Union Meadows; Austin Bluffs Open Space; North Cheyenne Cañon; Red Rock Canyon Open Space; Northgate Open Space; Woodstone Park; Quail Lake; and Rock Ledge Ranch.

➤ **Museum Governance**

Matt Mayberry, Cultural Services Manager, provided an update on the current status of the Museum’s governance transition process. This effort has been ongoing since 2011 and is a result of the Colorado Springs Pioneers Museum (CSPM) Sustainability Study conducted during the economic downturn. At the beginning of the streamlining process, the Museum had five affiliated Boards or non-profit organizations. These organizations included: 1) CSPM Board, created in 2012 to become the overall fundraising and governance organization; 2) El Paso County Pioneers’ Association; 3) the Friends of the CSPM; 4) CSPM Foundation; and 5) Museum Advisory Board. A re-organization framework was developed with input from the various boards that prescribed a process to combine or eliminate boards in order to improve the efficiency of the Museum’s operation. Much work has happened over the past three years. Since the last update to the Parks Board in January 2013, the CSPM Friends voted to dissolve their 501(c)(3) and amended the bylaws to allow their funds to transfer to the CSPM Board. Additionally, in January 2014, the Museum Advisory Board voted to cease meeting and to recommend that the City transfer the functions of this organization to the CSPM Board. This will likely happen during an upcoming review and revision to the City Code. The CSPM

has now achieved its proposed governance structure with the CSPM Board focusing on governance and fundraising and the CSPM Foundation managing the Museum's endowment fund.

➤ **Joint City Council and Parks Board Meeting**

Karen Palus, Director of Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services, said that a joint meeting between City Council and the Parks Board is scheduled on March 12th, 11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. at the Pioneers Museum. This is a meet and greet meeting, though the Council may address the water issue.

➤ **Joint Parks Board and TOPS Working Committee Meeting**

A joint meeting between the Parks Board and the TOPS Working Committee is scheduled on April 2nd, 8:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. at the El Pomar Penrose House. This meeting is to discuss the survey results and the overall master plan vision.

➤ **Parks Foundation Meeting**

Ms. Palus said that the Department is putting together a meeting with a consultant to discuss a Parks Foundation. The first meeting is scheduled on February 27th. Ms. Palus requested to have Board representatives at this meeting.

Jackie Hilaire and Mina Liebert volunteered.

➤ **Postponement of Agenda Items**

Due to lack of time, the following items have been postponed until the March meeting:

- 2013 Turf Update
- TOPS/CIP Update
- EMS Memorial Update

➤ **February Council Agenda Items**

February 24th Worksession:

- Update on the No Smoking Ordinance

February 25th Formal Session:

- A Resolution of Appreciation for the Friends of Ute Valley Park for their successful efforts to raise over \$100,000 to support the Acquisition, Maintenance and Preservation of the new 203 Acre Ute Valley Open Space
- A Resolution Supporting a Paths to Parks Trail Grant Application to Great Outdoors Colorado for the Legacy Loop Trail and Park Development Project
- A resolution supporting a local government parks and recreation grant application to Great Outdoors Colorado for the Outdoor Fitness Zone Park Development Project.

➤ **Camp Creek Drainage Project**

Kurt Schroeder, Manager of Park Operations and Development, announced that the next public meeting to discuss the redevelopment through Garden of the Gods Park to 31st Street is scheduled on February 25th, 6:00 p.m. at Coronado High School. Mr. Schroeder said that one of the options proposed is to increase the elevation of Gateway Road as it enters the Park. Beginning on February 15th through 23rd, there will be markers installed adjacent to the road which will represent the height of the new road alignment. They are now designed to modified maximum water run-off levels. Public input will be taken regarding this proposal.

Chair Hilaire requested that staff send pictures via email.

➤ **Open Meeting Policy**

Ms. Palus reminded Board members regarding the Open Meeting Policy and asked them to be cognizant of that, especially communicating through emails. She requested that any information for the Board members be sent to staff in order for staff to appropriately send to Board members.

Chair Hilaire added that when two or more Board members engage in email communications or a meeting, a meeting notice needs to be posted.

NOTE: Due to a meeting conflict, John Maynard left the meeting during Staff Report.

BOARD BUSINESS

➤ Board/Committee Reports and Remarks

Parks Master Plan: Chair Hilaire said that Board member Maynard expressed his concern regarding the Parks Master Plan and suggested having a Board work session or adding this item on to the Board meeting agenda to discuss the Master Plan, Parks Policy issues, and what the Board wants to present to City Council. He also asked about a joint meeting between the Parks Board and the TOPS Working Committee.

Ms. Palus said that a joint meeting between the Parks Board and the TOPS Working Committee is scheduled on April 2nd and that addresses Board member Maynard's concern. The survey results will be most productive for the group to discuss and provide feedback.

Agenda Item Requests by Board Members: Chair Hilaire said that if Board members have any agenda items for the Board meetings they are to notify staff two weeks in advance of the meeting.

Change in Minutes: Chair Hilaire requested that staff list the Action items in the beginning of the minutes.

ADJOURNMENT

Being no further business, the Board adjourned at 12:30 p.m.